GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:292
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2006
SUPPLY OF COARSE GRAINS
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalised its proposal for reduction in allocation of wheat for distribution to Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal of supply of coarse grains in lieu of wheat has also been finalised;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the Central issue price fixed for BPL and AAY families;

(e) whether the wheat allocation for other food based schemes is also proposed to be reduced; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, Scheme-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 292 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.08.2006 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) & (b): Keeping in view the reduced stocks of wheat in the Central Pool, the allocation of wheat to States for Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) category has been rationalised to each State`s average offtake for the last 3 years or the existing allocation, whichever is lower. However, the overall allocation of foodgrains has remained unchanged for BPL/AAY households, as the reduced wheat allocation has been made up by a corresponding increase in rice allocation.

(c) & (d): To encourage the consumption of coarsegrains under the Public Distribution system, a quantity of 2.5 lakh MT of coarse grains has been allotted to various States from December 2005, till date, as per the demand projected by them. Government is making available coarsegrains at the Central Issue Prices (CIPs) of 50% of the economic cost in the case of BPL families and at Rs. 200 per quintal in the case of AAY families.

(e) & (f): The Department of Food and Public Distribution has proposed that the allocation of foodgrains under SGRY be fixed on the basis of a norm of 3 kg per manday, against the existing norm of 5 kg per manday, and the balance compensated to the workers as additional cash component. No final decision, however, has been taken on this proposal.